

—FROM
HENRY W. KIP,
BUFFALO, N. Y.

To the Director
United States Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Buffalo, Aug. 21/89.

My dear Sir:

I take the liberty of addressing you to ascertain if you can give me any information regarding a medal I have in my possession, and it has been in our family possession for over forty years, to my personal knowledge. I will mail you tomorrow a photograph of it, showing both sides. It is a Washington medal, of 1792, solid silver, oval in shape, with a narrow silver band, made to be suspended from the neck by a cord, & worn on the breast. I will give you all the information I have, and as I have always understood it. In the year 1792, Congress ordered struck off, six of these medals, to be given to Washington, and by him, presented to the head chiefs of the Six Nations, to just what particular chief this medal was

2.

given I do not know. There is one more in existence that I know of, now held by one of the Panyga ship. now in Canada. Where my father obtained it, or from whom, I do not now remember, but, the medal came to me at his death, six years past. and he had it over forty years. I know at one time he had a fabulous sum of money offered him for it by a gentleman then living in Albany N.Y. & again from another, in N.Y. City, but, my father knowing its value declined to part with it, in fact it was not for sale. I am told it is worth some thousands of dollars, by parties interested in coins, medals &c. Will you kindly give me any information you have regarding it, its worth &c. and I shall be greatly indebted to you. I am

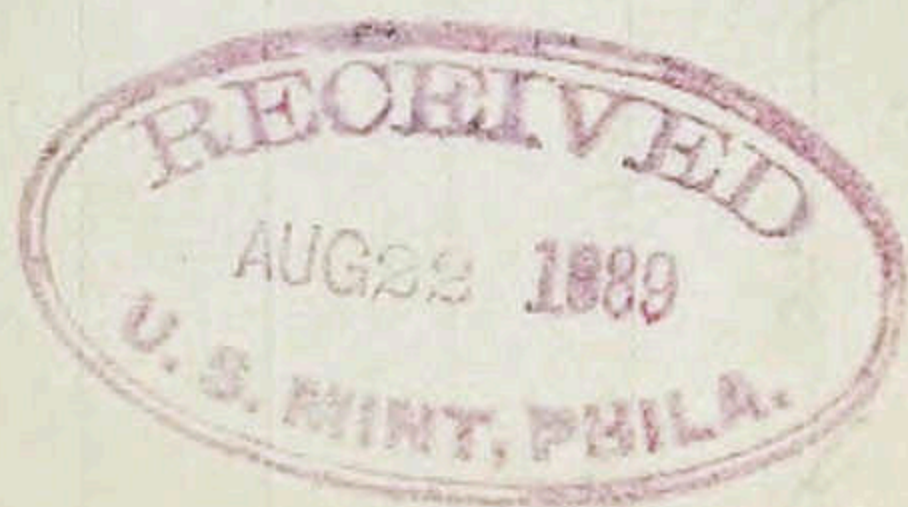
Yours Very Truly
Henry W. Kirk

214

Buffalo, N. Y.
Aug 21. 1889

Henry W. Kip

Asks information regard-
ing a Washington Medal
of 1792.



Henry W. Rip-

Buffalo N.Y.

The tin-type is similar to what is generally known as the Red Jacket Medal, which was given by President Washington to the celebrated Seneca Chief Sa-go-ya. (He keeps them awake). better known as Red Jacket, on the occasion of his visit to Philadelphia in March and April. 1792. It belonged a few years ago to his ~~nephew~~ ^{the late} great-grand-nephew, Gen. Ely S. Parker, who served on the staff of Gen. Grant ~~the~~ during the Civil War. And afterwards Commissioner of Indian Affairs. This is the only well authenticated Washington Indian Peace Medal, although similar ones, (of which yours is doubtless one,) were ^{given} during the Washington Administration to different Indian Chiefs, as will be seen from the following extract from a message addressed by Gen. Knox, then Secretary of War, to the Chief of the Cherokee Nation, and dated, Philadelphia. February 17 1792. "Brothers, your father General Washington sends you two great silver medals. you will point

out the two great Chiefs who are
to receive the marks of distinction.

The above information was
obtained from Loubat's "Medals
History of ~~America~~ the United States
of America."

These Medals were not ordered
by Resolution of Congress, and
were not coined or struck as
other Medals of the time, but
each one separately engraved
by hand.

As to the Market value of the
Medal, we do not know. I do
not think, any has ever been
sold. I would recommend a cor-
respondence, in regard to its value
with the following Coin dealers.

Scott Stamp & Coin Co.

12 East 23rd St. New York.

J. C. Randall.

1905 Chestnut St. Philadelphia

Chapman Bros.

1348 Pine St. Philadelphia

J.C.

[Letter One:]

[Abstract:] Asks information regarding a Washington Medal of 1792.

From Henry W. Kip,
Buffalo, N.Y.
August 21, 1889

To the Director
United States Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Sir,

I take the liberty of addressing you to ascertain if you can give me any information regarding a medal I have in my possession, and it has been in our family possession for over forty years, to my personal knowledge. I will mail you tomorrow a photograph of it, showing both sides. It is a Washington medal of 1792, solid silver, oval in shape, with a narrow silver band, made to be suspended from the neck by a cord & worn on the breast. I will give you all the information I have, and as I have always understood it. In the year 1792, Congress ordered struck off six of these medals to be given to Washington, and by him presented to the head chiefs of the six nations, to just what particular chief this medal was given I do not know. There is one more in existence that I know of now held by one of the Canyga Chiefs, and in Canada, where my father obtained it, or from when. I do not now remember, but the medal came to me at his death, six years past, and he had it over forty years. I know at one time he had a fabulous sum of money offered him for it by a gentleman then living in Albany N.Y. & again from another, in N.Y. City, but my father knowing its value declined to part with it, in fact it was not for sale. I am told it is worth some thousands of dollars by parties interested in coins, medals, &c. Will you kindly give me any information you have regarding it, its worth &c. and I shall be greatly indebted to you.

I am
Yours Very Truly
Henry W. Kip

[Letter Two:]

Henry W. Kip
Buffalo N.Y.

The tin-type is similar to what is generally known as the Red Pocket Medal, which was given by President Washington to the celebrated Seneca Chief Sa-go-ya. (He keeps them awake) better known as Red Pocket, on the occasion of his visit to Philadelphia in March and April 1792. It belonged a few years ago to his great-grand-nephew, the late Gen. Ely S. Parker, who served on the staff of Gen. Grant during the Civil War. And afterwards commissioner of Indian Affairs. This is the only well authenticated Washington Indian Peace Medal, although similar ones, (of which yours is doubtless one), were given during the Washington Administration to different Indian Chiefs, as will be seen from the following extract from a message addressed by Gen. Knox, then Secretary of War, to the Chief of the Choctaw Nation, and dated, Philadelphia, February 17, 1792. "Brothers, your father General Washington sends you two great silver medals. You will point out the two great chiefs who are to receive the marks of distinction." The above information was obtained from Loubat's "Medalic History of the United States of America".

These medals were not ordered by resolution of Congress, and were not coined or struck as other medals of the time, but each one separately engraved by hand.

As to the market value of the medal, we do not know. I do not think any have ever been sold. I would recommend a correspondence in regard to its value with the following coin dealers:

Scott Stamp & Coin Co.
12 East 23d St., New York

J.C. Randall
1905 Chestnut St., Philadelphia

Chapman Bros.
1348 Pine St., Philadelphia

M.C.